

**AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Previously Presented) A decoding device for decoding a bit stream including a plurality of packets, in which data corresponding to an access unit includes a first data portion and a second data portion, the decoding device comprising:
  - a packet regeneration section for receiving the bit stream including the plurality of packets, and producing a plurality of new packets from the received bit stream;
  - a storage section for storing the plurality of new packets produced by the packet regeneration section;
  - a read control section for receiving a control signal indicating a reproduction operation mode for the bit stream, producing an address signal according to the reproduction operation mode which is indicated by the control signal, outputting the produce address signal to the storage section, and reading, according to the address signal, the plurality of packets data which are stored in the storage section; and
  - a combining section for decoding the read signal at the read control section, wherein the packet regeneration section, in the case where one access unit which is a minimum data unit is decodable individually, has the first data portion included in the first packet of the bit stream and the second data portion included in the second packet following the first packet, combines the first data portion and the second data portion, and produces a new packet including information indicating a length of the data corresponding to the access unit; and
  - wherein the read control section, in the case where the control signal indicates a skip regeneration operation mode, by using information indicating a length of the data corresponding to the access unit, reads the plurality of new packets from the storage section so as to skip at least one of the plurality of new packets.
2. (Original) A decoding device according to claim 1, wherein the new packet further includes information indicating a presentation time stamp.
3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A decoding device for decoding a bit stream including a plurality of packets, in which data corresponding to an access unit includes a first data portion and a second data portion, the decoding device comprising:

a packet regeneration section for receiving the bit stream including the plurality of packets, and producing a plurality of new packets from the received bit stream;

a storage section for storing the plurality of new packets produced by the packet regeneration section;

a read control section for receiving a control signal indicating a reproduction operation mode for the bit stream, producing an address signal according to the reproduction operation mode which is indicated by the control signal, outputting the produce address signal to the storage section, and reading, according to the address signal, the plurality of packets data which are stored in the storage section; and

a combining section for decoding the read signal at the read control section, wherein the packet regeneration section, in the case where one access unit which is a minimum data unit is decodable individually, has the first data portion included in the first packet of the bit stream and the second data portion included in the second packet following the first packet, combines the first data portion and the second data portion, and produces a new packet including information indicating a length of the data corresponding to the access unit; and

wherein the read control section, in the case where the control signal indicates a freeze regeneration operation mode, by using information indicating a length of the data corresponding to the access unit, repeatedly reads at least one of the plurality of new packets from the storage section.

5. (Previously Presented) A decoding method for decoding a bit stream including a plurality of packets, in which data corresponding to an access unit includes a first data portion and a second data portion, the decoding method comprising the steps of:

a packet regeneration step for receiving the bit stream including the plurality of packets, and producing a plurality of new packets from the received bit stream;

a storage step for storing the plurality of new packets produced by the packet regeneration step;

a reading step for producing an address signal according to a control signal indicating a reproduction operation mode for the bit stream, and reading, according to the produced address signal, the plurality of packets data which has been stored in the storage step; and

a decoding step for decoding the data read on the reading step,

wherein the packet regeneration step, in the case where one access unit which is a minimum data unit is decodable individually, has the first data portion included in the first packet of the bit stream and the second data portion included in the second packet following the first packet, combines the first data portion and the second data portion, and produces a new packet including information indicating a length of the data corresponding to the access unit; and

wherein the read control step, in the case where the control signal indicates a skip regeneration operation mode, by using information indicating a length of the data corresponding to the access unit, reads the plurality of new packets from the storage step so as to skip at least one of the plurality of new packets.

6. (Previously Presented) A decoding method for decoding a bit stream including a plurality of packets, in which data corresponding to an access unit includes a first data portion and a second data portion, the decoding method comprising the steps of:

a packet regeneration step for receiving the bit stream including the plurality of packets, and producing a plurality of new packets from the received bit stream;

a storage step for storing the plurality of new packets produced by the packet regeneration step;

a reading step for producing an address signal according to a control signal indicating a reproduction operation mode for the bit stream, and reading, according to the produced address signal, the plurality of packets data which has been stored in the storage step; and

a decoding step for decoding the data read on the reading step,

wherein the packet regeneration step, in the case where one access unit which is a minimum data unit is decodable individually, has the first data portion included in the first packet of the bit stream and the second data portion included in the second packet following the first packet, combines the first data portion and the second data portion, and produces a new packet including information indicating a length of the data corresponding to the access unit; and

wherein the reading step, in the case where the control signal indicates a freeze regeneration operation mode, by using information indicating a length of the data corresponding to the access unit, repeatedly reads at least one of the plurality of new packets from the storage step.

7. (New) A decoding device according to claim 4, wherein the new packet further includes information indicating a presentation time stamp.